

The San Diego Miata Club News Letter

Volume 20, Number 11

Rear View Mirron

GENE STREETER

"Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire ..."

In my polyunsaturated opinion, Thanksgiving is one of the least-tainted* holidays we celebrate in San Diego, if not all of the United States. (If you're thinking "what about



'tryptophan?" I was referring instead to the lower level of commercialism.) As I'm writing this, I'm still looking forward to spending the day with family, sharing lovingly-prepared food and a small portion of the bounty we enjoy here. There's nothing like a nine to ten-hour drive through Orange, Los Angeles, and Kern Counties (and back) in retrieving my parents from their palatial Kern River Valley estate to help me better appreciate San Diego. Not the least of which is our temperate climate and broad selection of scenic and curvaceous roads.

This being the December edition, our obvious focus is on the Christmas and Chanukah Holidays – religious celebrations, yes, but also heavily commercialized. Seasonal decorations and merchandise appeared almost as Jack-o-Lantern candles burned out, with "Christmas Carols" taking over certain radio stations a few short weeks later. I look forward to our SDMC Holiday Party December 5 – new venue, new menu, great views, same great club members to socialize with. It's not much of

(Continued on pg. 3)

TIME TO RENEW

CHRIS & LINDA, SDMC Membership Team



It's time to renew your SDMC membership for 2016, and it's still a bargain at just \$35 for the calendar year. The updated renewal form is available on the SDMC website [For Members >>> Renewal Application (at bottom of page)], or pick up a form at the Club's monthly meetings. Either mail a check with your signed form to the address indicated, or renew in person at one of the upcoming monthly meetings where you may pay with cash or check, or via PayPal. We greatly appreciate your renewal by the end of January 2016. Thanks!

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GEEZER RUNS

JON CONNOR

So what is a Geezer?

Perhaps you've heard the word "geezer" and wondered what is meant. According to several different dictionary sources, the word is defined as follows:

- In the U.K.: A guy, a bloke, a person in general. The British equivalent of the American slang word "dude".
- In the U.S.: An old man, particularly one who is either cranky or eccentric.
- In general, an odd, or eccentric person.

We in the San Diego Miata Club have a tradition of Geezer Runs and that term may be confusing or nonsensical to many. As a Geezer Run unfolds it is generally a somewhat impromptu run, most likely on a week day when the "geezers" (who are often retired) avail themselves of the activity.

Do you need to be retired to participate? Well no, not if we look closely at the definitions. If one is odd, eccentric or cranky it would seem to be the qualifications would be met. Additionally, if one has a midweek day off or just decides to take a "mental health" day a Geezer Run might be just what the doctor ordered to restore one to optimal mental health.

Recently, a group of San Diego Miata Club members participated in Geezer Run to Palm Springs. We gathered in Temecula and drove over the mountains and through the woods to the sunshine playground that is Palm Springs. The drive included an en route stop at Dairy Queen before we attacked the mountains and the many fun twisties. Our journey culminated in a wonderful Mexican food lunch at Las Casuelas Terraza where we celebrated Melinda Smith's birthday and official Geezerdom!!!



stretch for many of us to consider fellow SDMC members "extended family." Our concession to holiday gift-giving? Even if you haven't been part of it, you've likely heard of the holiday gift exchange and thievery.



Photo NOT taken in San Diego

Courtesy of John Lord

No matter where you drive, or how you spend your time this holiday season, may your automotive desires be fulfilled in the same measure as you share your love and blessings with those around you.

Happy Holidays!

Annual Meeting Woes

I suppose it's typical for a presidential candidate to have Election Day jitters. I arrived at the Automobile Museum venue at 9:00 AM, and a little behind the schedule I set for myself. "Why is everyone outside?" I queried. As it happened, no museum staff would arrive for another forty minutes; it seemed like an eternity. I was already hatching back-up plans ... on such a perfect San Diego day; we could even hold our meeting alfresco if necessary.

Once we gained access to our reserved meeting space (I didn't get his name, but it wasn't Al Fresco that let us in), we learned there had been a roof collapse over the library in our last torrential rain. You might recall we received approximately .25" on the coast, but it was sufficient to dampen and damage a significant portion of the inventory – it was boxed, tarped, and now lined the perimeter of the meeting room. An auspicious beginning to what proved to be an informative and entertaining morning.

Incumbents Survive Another Year

Sharing my take on our year to date, all those in attendance seemed receptive to the changes implemented, as illustrated by Secretary Jon Connor's review of our 2014 annual meeting minutes. Surf'N Safari was a major focus through much of 2015, and involved most of the audience. The modest financial shortfall that resulted pales in comparison to its reinforcement of our reputation for providing the best regional Miata event in North America.

My mantra of late, "it takes a village" remains central to our success as a club; fittingly, all our appointed volunteers present were recognized for their contributions, along with my Board peers. Treasurer Laurie

Waid provided her assessment of our club's overall financial health and the relative costs of the benefits and services provided.

The nomination and election process itself was nearly anti-climactic. The lone nominations for each of the four elected Board positions were affirmed by unanimous vote. Where Jon Connor and I were seeking ratification for another year, Vice President Jan Frederick and Treasurer Laurie Waid wanted to engage other members in leadership roles. Per the bylaws, Past President Neal Mills remains in his role of Board resource; I've greatly appreciated his support this year.

Please welcome Greg Lee as your 2016 VP and Dennis Sullivan to the Treasurer role, effective January 1. Once you view Mark Booth's photos of the 2016 Board, you'll realize we didn't do very well in the gender diversity department. (For those of you thinking "follicaly-challenged" as well, shame on you.) There will be five males leading our club this coming year. I, for one, will sorely miss Jan's and Laurie's "take charge" attitudes, detail orientation, and what I like to call the "social graces."

"It's Only a Movie"

Actually, a PowerPoint presentation by Greg Lee to provide appropriate recognition for all those that put on a run or event in the months since our November, 2014 Annual Meeting.

It's no secret that NASA (the space administration, not the motor sports organization) blamed PowerPoint distribution of complex information for significant systems failures during its congressional testimony of over a decade ago. Unlike our inimitable Greg Lee, neither NASA nor Congress is known for its sense of humor.

In the event you came for the Academy Awards-style presentation, replete with glamorous co-hostess, and Oscar-style trophies presented across a brace of contrived nomination groups, you might have been disappointed. Until, of course, you allowed Greg to take you down a different path, perhaps even to a new fishin' hole.

Where his slides were mostly business-professional in appearance, his delivery was much like the "bottom half" below my cashmere sport coat – "and ... all about having fun." For those of you in attendance, picture my face slightly redder; for those of you who weren't there, I'm hoping there's no video evidence. I've since been scanning youtube to make sure. The joke was eventually "on Greg," though, when he credited Jeff and Jan Frederick as the "Fredericksons." Their recognition slide featured the Top Gun images of "Goose" and "Maverick" (appropriate because Jeff and Jan were both jet pilots), but Jan has never sported a mustache. Even the audience got into the act, retaliating by renaming him Greg Lee-son.

K1 Speed Challenge - Get Ready!

Many or most of you know SDMC member Craig Moya is a long-time Corvette owner and Corvette Owners Club of San Diego (COCSD) member and officer. Craig has, once again, coordinated a karting competition between two Corvette clubs and SDMC. By virtue of his frequent flyer miles at racetrack venues all over the country and at K1 Speed's venue in particular, he's become quite proficient behind the wheel of their electric karts.

Given the drubbing we took at the last such competition, we need some practice ahead of the event. Slated for January 16, 2016, there must be a positive numerological sign about the date - 1/16/16. Craig's allegiance and driving services are available for the club demonstrating the most effort and promise. Sounds a little like Boris Said's approach to racing contracts, doesn't it? For the record, Boris is part owner of the K1 Speed enterprise. (Note: this event has been re-scheduled for February 20th, 2016. – Ed)



Date/Time	Event
11/27/2015 11:00 am - 12:30 pm	<u>K1 Speed Friday</u>
	K1 Speed – San Diego, San Diego CA
12/12/2015 10:00 am - 11:30 am	K1 Speed Saturday
10.00 dili - 11.30 dili	K1 Speed – San Diego, San Diego CA
12/26/2015	K1 Speed Saturday
10:00 am - 11:30 am	KT Speed – San Diego, San Diego CA

"I've Got Rhythm ..."

Coordination of Runs and Events is central to our fun and the overall health of our car club. Dan "the Man" Garcia boldly put his hand in the air when we cast the net for Daryled Bristol's replacement. Having made routine updates to our website in connection with this year's Surf'N Safari event, he also asked the question "how much more work can it be?" (For other questions – rhetorical and otherwise, see the Q&A segment below.)

Let's answer Dan's question by keeping him extremely busy with Events Calendar updates and their promotion at our monthly meetings. In doing some soul-searching about my own leadership in 2015, I concluded I hadn't spent enough effort in promoting and conducting runs this year. My goal is to "orchestrate" a Ferris Bueller VI and a "President's Run" (overnight and out-of-county) in 2016. At least we have an official greeting already established. Please join me in this renewed emphasis ...

Shoulder Bolts



Toward More Pithy Conversation...

Where last month's newsletter masthead sported a photo of a Surf'N Safari-themed NC Miata, I've since found a more suitable image of a Safari-style Miata. This example comes to us courtesy of the now-defunct "Top Gear" television series. I think it could use a matching tubular roll bar and/or observation platform. How about you?

There's absolutely no truth to the rumor that Rocky Murphy and Brian Goodwin are building rear "dually" ND prototypes.



Ask Your Leadership ... Members Want to Know ...

Q: Are we ever going to have a "Bring Your Dogs and Cats" Monthly Meeting?

A: Only after we inquire whether the cooks at Hamburger Factory know how to prepare them. I occasionally had my suspicions at the Boll Weevil. You don't suppose the Jaguar and Cougar enthusiast clubs have that issue, do you?

Q: Can I earn my magnetics if my run starts outside of San Diego County?

A: I suppose; while there's no particular rule on that point, you'd want to consider the level of participation you might have. We'll talk soon about the 4 Ps of a Fun Run that qualifies it for magnetics. Jon Connor provides his dissertation on the nature of "Geezer Runs" elsewhere in this edition.

Q: Apart from the fact our 2016 SDMC Board is all-male, some of us have noticed all four elected members are also follically-challenged. Should we be concerned?

A: (from Pres. Streeter) Thank you for being PC in sharing your observations. "Male pattern baldness" stems from the maternal genetic complement; and mostly outside our natural control. Given the current fascination with sustainable energy, think of our balding pates as solar panels ... or,

"Our Creator only produced a finite number of perfect heads; the rest he covered with hair." Yeah, that'll work!

Stay healthy, stay engaged ... stay classy, San Diego Mata Club!

Welcome to our newest members...

Dale & Linda Condy Ca	Isbad 2009 Stormy	Blue Mica
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We end 2015 with 168 memberships for a total of 289 members. Since 2012, we've averaged 168.5 memberships (289.5 people) at the end of each year.

It is a question that has been asked since the first automobiles were built: We all drive fast cars, but who has the fastest drivers?

SDMC or COCSD or CofSD?



We will find the answer at K1 SPEED

1709 MAIN ST., SAN DIEGO
Saturday, February 20

Meet at Bob Stall Chevrolet at 9:15 am

The Corvette Owners Club of San Diego racers were dominant in the last K1 Speed Challenge, taking 9 of the top 11 places. The San Diego Miata Club and the Corvettes of San Diego club are getting a chance to show that it was an aberration. We're hoping to have 30 racers - 10 from each club. If the other two clubs can't field that many, COCSD will make up the difference, giving them an advantage.

Each club will get a separate 14-lap qualifying session. After a short break, we'll divide up into three race groups (fast, very fast and ridiculously fast), based upon the qualifying times, for 16-lap races for the trophies and the bragging rights.

Following the races, we'll head up I-5 to the **Corvette Diner** for lunch in the Corvette Clubhouse.

The **cost to race is \$44** (\$5 off the regular price), which includes an always-in-fashion "head sock", so that you can use one of the track's helmets. Or if you have your own full-face helmet, bring it! There is **NO COST** to watch and cheer on the SDMC racers. There is plenty of safe parking at both locations.

Questions? Call Craig Moya at 619-723-2020.

Upcoming Events

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5 - SDMC HOLIDAY PARTY & GIFT EXCHANGE

TIME: Cocktails & Hors d'oeuvres 6:00 - 7:00PM, Dinner & Gift Exchange 7:00 - 10:00PM

LOCATION: Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Bay View Restaurant.

NOTE: Everyone will need a valid ID and you must show proof of car insurance.

POC: Laurie Waid

Get into the spirit of this year's holiday season and join club members for the Annual SDMC Holiday Party. Bring a car or Miata related gift (\$25) to participate in the antics of the SDMC Gift Exchange and Thievery. One gift per car PLEASE! Don't miss out on an evening of holiday merriment and the entertainment by Santa and his Elves.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 - 2016 SAN MARCOS HOLIDAY PARADE

TIME: 10:00AM Meet (earlier for coffee and social time)

10:15AM Caravan to Palomar College and the parade staging area

10:30AM Arrive in the staging area and begin decorating cars

11:00AM Entry judging begins

12:30PM Entries begin moving to the parade starting location

1:00PM Parade starts

MEETING LOCATION: In Nordahl Marketplace. Meet near the old Burger King, 767 Center Dr. San Marcos. Exit Highway 78 at Nordahl and turn north. Entrance is the first left turn (two left turn lanes), just past Hooters. Burger King (now "Freddy's is Coming Soon") is on your right as you enter the parking lot. Come early to socialize with a cup of coffee.

POC: Steve Waid, swaid@...

THIS IS A RAIN OR SHINE EVENT. The parade is a classic small town, children oriented parade. There are lots of cub scouts, brownies, girl scouts, boy scouts, cheerleaders, home made floats, and then there are our Miatas. We have been the "recognized saviors" on many occasions by being able to provide last minute rides for their various dignitaries. Most of the time we drive by ourselves as a group! This is the only known parade where we do not have to just drive in a straight line and grin and wave. We are allowed to do our "trick driving" including circles, slaloms and going backward. It is JUST FUN! This year's parade theme is A Charlie Brown Christmas. Creativity is rewarded. The parade link is http://www.kiwanisclubofsanmarcos.org/holidayparade.html. Recommended items to bring are pipe cleaners (for attaching car decorations), water, and snacks. Please bring an unwrapped toy (PLEASE NO STUFFED TOYS) for a needy child and canned or non-perishable food items for needy families. Please let Steve know ASAP if you are planning to come so he can give the Kiwanians a ball park number prior to the day of the parade. Plan on eating together after the parade.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16 - SDMC MONTHLY MEETING

TIME: Members typically start arriving around 6:00PM for dinner. Business meeting is from 7:00 - 8:00PM. LOCATION: The Hamburger Factory Family Restaurant, 14122 Midland Road, Poway, CA

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1 - 2016 NEW YEAR'S DAY ROSE RUN

TIME: Breakfast 7:45 - 8:00AM, Drivers' Meeting 9:15AM, Departure 9:30AM

LOCATION: Pegah's Kitchen (formerly the Westside Café), 912 South Redwood St, Escondido, CA (corner of Redwood and 9th Ave just west of Centre City Pkwy)

Celebrate the New Year by joining us for breakfast and then a scenic and twisty run through the San Diego back country. We'll depart Escondido at 9:30 and wander the back roads before making a stop in Julian for pie and ice cream. After refreshments, we'll wander back down the mountain and finish up in Rancho Bernardo

POC: Neal & Grace Mills, nealmills@aol.com

NOTE:

Not many SDMC events are scheduled beyond January 2016. We're looking for volunteers to lead a run or be in charge of a special event for the months of February and beyond. This is a great opportunity for someone to earn their magnetics or, for experienced run leaders, to lead us on new Miata roads to your favorite locations.

I wish you and your family HAPPY HOLIDAYS! Dan Garcia SDMC Events Coordinator

SDMC Officers







Vice - President Jan Frederick



Treasurer Laurie Waid



Secretary
Jon Connor

Executive Board

President - Gene Streeter

760-445-2860 president@sandiegomiataclub.org

Vice President - Jan Frederick

vicepresident@sandiegomiataclub.org

Treasurer - Laurie Waid

760-432-0727

treasurer@sandiegomiataclub.org

Secretary - Jon Connor

760-458-4503

secretary@sandiegomiataclub.org

Administrative Board

Membership - Chris and Linda Jones

membership@sandiegomiataclub.org

Events Coordinator - Dan Garcia

Club E-Mail - Bob Kleeman

619-501-9776 postmaster@sandiegomiataclub.org

Webmaster - Dan Garcia

webmaster@sandiegomiataclub.org

Club Regalia - Steve & Laurie Waid

760-432-0727 regalia@sandiegomiataclub.org

Historian - Elinor Shack

858-485-0278 mshack@san.rr.com

Twists & Turns Staff

Editor - Jonathan Dingee

619-630-5663 newsletter@sandiegomiataclub.org

Proofreader - Dennis Sullivan

densullivan65@gmail.com

Proofreader - John Lord

johnlord@calvarychapel.com

Contact SDMC

The Web

www.sandiegomiataclub.org

Mail

P.O. Box 261921 San Diego, CA 92196

E-Mail

Most club communication is conducted via e-mail through a Yahoo Group named SDMC-List. A free Yahoo account is required. Follow these steps:

- 1. Go to http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/ group/SDMC-List (capitalization matters!).
- 2. Click "Join This Group!"
- 3. If you have a Yahoo account, log in. If you do not, click "Sign Up" and follow the instructions.
- 4. After logging in, you will be returned to the SDMC-List "Join This Group" page.
- 5. In "Comment to Owner," state that you are an SDMC member.
- 6. Complete remaining selections, perform Word Verification, and click the "Join" button.
- 7. Your SDMC membership will be verified. The verification and approval process may take several days.

For more detailed instructions, see the club's website.

The SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB is a California nonprofit corporation. Twists & Turns is the monthly newsletter of the SAN DIEGO MIATA CLUB. Use of articles or stories by other Miata clubs is hereby granted, provided proper credit is given. Submissions to the newsletter are welcomed and encouraged. When possible, please e-mail your submissions to the newsletter editor. Submissions may also be mailed to the club's post office box, Submission deadline is the 15th of each month. The Editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Our Mission

The purpose of the club is to promote the enjoyment of, and enthusiasm for, one of the world's most exciting sports cars—the Mazda Miata.

Owning and driving a Miata is one of life's great pleasures, and adding the company and camaraderie of like-minded enthusiasts only enhances the experience. Won't you join the fun as we enjoy the beauty of San Diego County from the seat of a very special little roadster?

Let's have fun driving our Miatas!

Monthly Meetings

Our monthly meetings are a great opportunity to meet your fellow club members, ask questions, and share stories. **Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month, except in November and December when on the third Wednesday.** We meet at The Hamburger Factory Family Restaurant, 14122 Midland Road, Poway, CA 92064. To contact the restaurant, call (858) 486-4575. Many members arrive around 6. p.m. to enjoy meals, snacks, or beverages while chatting with their Miata friends. The informal meeting starts at 7 p.m. We guarantee you'll have fun.

Next Monthly Meeting: Wednesday, December 16th

Dues

Dues are \$35 per calendar year, for either an individual or a dual membership (two members in the same household). Members who join the club in the first half of the calendar year (January through June) pay \$35 for their first year; those who join in the second half of the year pay \$20 for the remainder of the year.

Badges

Have you noticed those engraved plastic name badges that other members wear? Would you like to get one? You can now order them on-line from fellow Miata enthusiast, Joe Portas – the KnobMeister. The .pdf order form is available on our SDMC website. These popular magnetic badges are priced at \$6 each, plus shipping.

Member Discounts

any vendors offer discounts to Miata Club members. The club does not endorse these vendors, but lists them as a membership benefit. Some offers may require you to show a current SDMC membership card.

Businesses that wish to be listed must offer a discount from their normal retail prices to SDMC members. Listings ate limited to five lines (about 30-35 words). Contact newsletter@sandiegomiataclub.org for additional information.

Automotive Services

American Battery. Miata batteries & all other batteries. 525 West Washington, Escondido. 760-746-8010. Contact: Jeff Hartmayer. Discount: Fleet discount on all products.

Auto Image Paintless dent repair, leather/ vinyl/plastic repair, headlight restoration & paint touch up. Free estimates at your home or work. Contact

Britt Colton, 619-244-2227, Discount: 10%

Dent Time: fast reasonable paintless dent removal. 800-420-DENT (3368). They come to your door, provided quick and professional service.

Express Tire. Auto repair, tires. 12619 Poway Road, Poway. 858-748-6330. Manager: David Dolan. Discount: 10% on parts and labor, including tires.

Good-Win Racing LLC. Miata intakes, exhausts, shocks, springs, & goodies from Racing Beat, Moss, and more. www.goodwin-racing.com. 858-775-2810. Special club price on everything.

Hawthorne Wholesale Tire. Tires, wheels, brakes, and suspension. 877 Rancheros Dr., San Marcos. 760-746-6980. Discount: 10%

Knobmeister Quality Images. 3595 Gray Circle, Elbert, CO 80106-9652. Joe Portas, joe@knobmeister.com. 303-730-6060.

Langka Corp. Guaranteed paint chip and restoration products. 800-945-4532. www.langka.com. Discount: 30%.

Rocky's Miatomotive 2951 Garnet Avenue, San Diego, CA 92109.

858-273-2547. Discount: 10% on labor.

Lutz Tire & Service. Alignment specialist, tires. 2853 Market Street, San Diego. 619-234-3535. Ask for Mike. Discount: 10% on parts (tires not included).

TJM Enterprises (formerly Magnolia Autobody). Restorations, body work. 10027 Prospect Avenue, Santee.

619-562-7861. Ask for T.J. Discount: 10% on labor and parts.

Pitstop Autoglass Rock chip repairs free to SDMC Miata club members for club Miatas. Must show valid membership card. In-shop only. Non-Miatas save 25% off regular prices. 858-675-GLASS (4527)

Porterfield Enterprises Ltd. Brake pads, rotors. 1767 Placentia Ave., Costa Mesa. 949-548-4470. Discount: 15% on Porterfield & Hawk brake pads; \$10 off rotors; \$9.25 for Motul 600 brake fluid (1pint).

Smog Squad. 3342 Rosecrans, San Diego. 619-223-8806. General Manager: Jose Munoz. Discount: \$10 on smog tests.

Thompson Automotive. Cool accessories for our cool cars; oil filter relocation kits, gauge kits, air horns, brakes, Voodoo knobs, & MORE.

www.thompson-automotive.com. 949-366-0322. Discount: 10%

Tri-City Paint. Professional detailing, products, paint, airbrushes, car covers. West Miramar Area: 858-909-2100; Santee, Mission Gorge: 619-448-9140. Discount: Body shop pricing #CM6660.

U Fix It Automotive. Open to anyone that wants to work on a car. 6 bays, 5 lifts, and tools, Rent by the hour, day or multi-day. Contact Joel Muoz, 760.544.6181. 10% SDMC discount.

World Famous Car Wash. Complete professional car care. Complete detail, hand wax, leather treatment, free shuttle service. 7215 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, San Diego. 858-495-9274. Discount: 10%

Mazda Dealerships

Mazda of El Cajon. 619-590-3700. Discount: 20% on parts and labor. VIP Membership: 3 oil changes for \$19.95 with \$5 going to Rady's Children's Hospital.

Mazda of Escondido. 760-737-3200. Discount: 20% on most parts; 15% on labor (not including smog). For purchase, ask for Barb and receive free SDMC membership for 1 year!

Westcott Mazda. National City. 619-474-1591. Discount: 15% on parts or labor (except oil changes).

Other Services

David Bryan your friendly neighborhood REALTOR; Pacific Sotheby's International Realty. I sell garages with homes! I will provide SDMC members who buy or sell a home through me with a free 1-year home warranty. DAVID BRYAN 619.334.4625 DavidBrealtor@cox.net DRE#01009295

FIRST BRAND Inc. Web/Logo Designs and Development We are currently offering a 10% discount off our promotional packages listed on www.FIRSTBRANDinc.com or you can call us at 951-672-6677.

Classifieds

FOR SALE.Complete Jackson racing cold air intake system.

All plastic is un damaged, no cracks. The aluminum intake is complete with extra hoses includes fasteners and wiring harness and a like new air filter. Fits 1994-1997 Miatas. Calif. street legal with sticker.New price is \$369.95 plus shipping and tax. My price is \$185.00 CASH (no checks) Call 619-284-4911 Mon--Friday 8am --5pm

Parting out 2001 Miata.Crystal Blue.

Big brakes, 6 speed. High miles, open diff, Factory 16" wheels.

Car is not damaged but well worn. Not drivable due to a bad u-joint. Clear title Contact Bill Knepper 619-733-7455

SALVAGE PARTS. Mainly 1990 to 2005 parts, at least 50 % off of cost new. Some 2006 and newer parts including tops, seats and trim.

wallymiata@gmail.com or 619-203-2801 Wally Stevens SOCALM & SDMC member.

San Diego Miata Club PO Box 180456 Coronado CA 92178-0456